

[theme music]

A light gray screen with dark gray text that reads 'Federal Open Market Committee' scrolls across the screen in segments then scales down to the full title. Scene fades to white.

A male host named Tim Sustak stands in front of a gray wall with two dark, wooden books shelves with various books and decorations on them. Below him is a screen width gray graphic with a blue border on top and white letters that read, 'Federal Open Market Committee Update- Tim Sustak -December 19, 2018.

Tim: Hi, I'm Tim Sustak, Chief Credit Officer with Vizo Financial and this is your FOMC update for the December 2018 meeting.

Tim: As anticipated, the Federal Open Market Committee raised the target fed funds range 25 basis points, which now puts it at 2.25% on the lower end, and 2.50% on the upper end. The committee's statement following the meeting was very similar to November's statement; indicating that economic activity, the labor market, and household spending have been strong. The committee left the door open for additional rate increases next year by saying that "the committee judges that some further gradual increases in the target range for the federal funds rate will be consistent with sustained expansion of economic activity, strong labor market conditions, and inflation near the Committee's symmetric 2 percent objective over the medium term".

Tim: Though the Fed left the door open for additional increases next year, they now project fewer. The latest version of the Fed's quarterly economic projections include a dot plot indicating two 25 basis point increases in the fed funds rate for 2019, versus the three that were projected in September.

Tim: That's the update for the December FOMC meeting. Thanks for watching!

[theme music]

Screen fades to a light gray screen and Vizo Financial logo appears. Vizo Financial logo fades out and disclaimer text appears on screen.

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